

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 6-9, and 11-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogawa et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,632,514) in view of Ogura et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,271,902) and Narutaki et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,906,765).

Claims 4-5 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogawa et al., Ogura et al., Narutaki et al. and Matsushita et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,501,521).

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants now submit an English translation of priority document JP 2002-358381 to perfect their claim of priority. Therefore, Applicants are entitled to the benefit of the December 10, 2002 filing date of JP 2002-358381.

The Narutaki et al. reference is not prior art to Applicant's invention because it was filed on July 15, 2003, which fails to pre-date Applicant's December 10, 2002 priority date.

Therefore, the Section 103 rejections based on the Narutuki et al. reference are overcome. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this Section 103 rejection.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Dec 20, 2005

By: 

G. Gregory Schivley, Reg. No. 27,382
Bryant E. Wade, Reg. No. 40,344

HARNESS, DICKY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

GGG/BGS/les